

I. Amendments to the Specification

Kindly insert a cross-reference to related applications as the first paragraph following the title as follows:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation application of United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/874,775, filed on September 24, 2002, now pending.

Please replace the section beginning at page 9, line 9, with the following rewritten section:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

~~Fig.~~ Figure 1 is a perspective view of the rear of a prior art wheel cover;

~~Fig.~~ Figure 2 is a plan view of a prior art wheel and lug nuts to which the prior art wheel cover (not shown) is to be attached;

~~Fig.~~ Figure 3 is a sectional view of Figure 2 including the prior art wheel cover of Figure 1;

~~Fig.~~ Figure 4 is a sectional view of an elongated tubular extension of the prior art wheel cover of Figure 1, prior to attachment to one of the lug nuts of Figure 2;

~~Fig.~~ Figure 5 is an enlarged sectional view of the prior art elongated tubular extension of Figure 4 shown attached to one of the lug nuts of Figure 2;

~~Fig.~~ Figure 6 is a perspective of the wheel cover assembly according to the present invention;

~~Fig.~~ Figure 7 is a plan view of a wire band retainer;

~~Fig.~~ Figure 8 is an enlarged sectional view of a rib of the wheel cover assembly of Figure 6; and

~~Fig.~~ Figure 9 is an enlarged sectional view of an elongated tubular extension of Figure 6 and the wire band retainer of Figure 7 attached to a lug nut.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Referring now to Figure 4, it can be seen that near the end of each cantilevered tapered finger 52 is an undercut groove 56 with a shoulder 56a that defines one end of the groove 56 and a tapered portion 56b defining an opposite end of the groove 56. Each cantilevered tapered finger 52, beyond the groove 56, terminates in a bulbous portion 58. When the cover 40 is attached to the wheel 12, the elongated tubular extensions 50 are aligned with the lug nuts 20 and the cover 40 is moved axially inwardly of the wheel 12 so that the cantilevered fingers 52 separate slightly as their bulbous end portions 58 pass over the lug nut 20 and associated flange 30 until the undercut groove 56 is allowed to snap over the flange 30 of the lug nut 20. Concurrently, the shoulder 56a of the undercut groove 56 will abut against the upper shoulder 32 of the lug nut flange 30, thereby providing a positive axial location of the cover 40 to the wheel 12 and eliminating the effects of tolerance stack ups of any other surfaces.